UNITED
NATIONS

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United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development

Distr.
GENERAL
TD/B/LDC/AC.1/1
1[illegible] March 1993

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Meeting of Governmental Experts from Developing Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions
New York, 17 May 1993

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Review of the problems of land-locked developing countries
4. Proposals for appropriate concrete action to address the problems of land-locked developing countries
5. Other business
6. Adoption of the report of the Meeting.

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II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Introduction

The Meeting of Governmental Experts from Developing Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions will be convened in New York from 17 to 19 May 1993, pursuant to paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 46/212. The terms of reference of the Meeting as set out in General Assembly resolution 46/212 are to review and propose appropriate concrete action to address the problems of land-locked developing countries to be forwarded to the Trade and Development Board and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, for appropriate action.

Item 1: Election of officers

In accordance with normal practice, the Meeting may wish to elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda in section I above has been drawn up on the basis of the terms of reference given to the Meeting in General Assembly resolution 46/212.

The secretariat will make suggestions for the organization of work and a tentative timetable of meetings at the beginning of the session.

Item 3: Review of problems of land-locked developing countries

and

Item 4: Proposals for appropriate concrete action to address the problems of land-locked developing countries

For its consideration of these two items the Meeting will have before it the following documentation:

Transit systems for land-locked developing countries: current situation and proposals for future action - Report by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/LDC/AC.1/2)

This report begins with a short overview of the nature of the transit problem, outlining the magnitude of the problem, the complexity of transit cooperation between land-locked and the coastal transit States, and the issue of the alternatives to transit. The report then makes a review and assessment of current action in specific problem areas of transit, which include the regulatory framework, the transit infrastructure and arrangements for their use, management and maintenance, the transit procedures and their facilitation as well as the overall coordination of transit operations. Lastly the report makes concrete proposals for future action at the national, subregional and international levels.

Background documents

In addition to the above agenda item document, the following background documents will be made available to the meeting.

(i) Contributions from United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations: These contribution will be made available in the language and form in which they were received:

- "Support for the land-locked countries of South America": contribution by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.2)

- "Activities on behalf of the land-locked developing countries": contribution by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.3)

- "Assistance to land-locked developing countries with regional implications": contribution by the Asian Development Bank (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.4)

- "Customs transit in international road haulage": contribution by the International Road Union (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.5)

(ii) Other background documents

- "Transit systems serving the land-locked countries: country profiles in West/Central Africa" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.6)

- "Transit systems serving the land-locked countries: country profiles in East/Central Africa" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.7)

- "Transit systems serving the land-locked countries: country profiles in Southern Africa" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.8)

- "Transit systems serving the land-locked countries: country profiles in Asia" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.9)

- "International transport costs of land-locked developing countries" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.10)

- "Legal and institutional framework for transit operations: review of the current situation and proposals for improvement" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.11)

- " Synopsis of UNCTAD's technical assistance activities in the area of transit traffic" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.12)

- "The role of airfreight in African land-locked developing countries" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.13)

- "Improvement of current transit insurance arrangements for land-locked developing countries" (UNCTAD/LDC/Misc.14)

Item 5: Other business

Item 6: Adoption of the report of the Meeting